

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 /027 W
-----034102 091832Z /50

O R 091728Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO USINFO WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5444

UNCLAS SAN SALVADOR 4259
FOR: IOP; IPS, IBS, ILA

EO 11652: NA

CONSERVATIVE AFTERNOON BIARIO LATINO PRAISED CANAL TREATY AND
LATIN AMERICJFMSUMMIT YESTERDAY. EDITORIAL SAID IN PART,
"PRESIDENT CARTER HAS SCORED A SIGNIFICANT TRIUMPH WITH THIS
MEETING OF THE CHIEFS OF STATE, SINCE IT MARKS A MILESTONE
IN THE ANNALS OF INTERAMERICAN POLITICS AND SETS A VALUABLE
PRECEDENT.

"IN OUR VIEW, THIS GESTURE OF THE U.S. PRESIDENT TO GIVE THE
CANAL TREATY SIGNING A SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE HAS A DOUBLE MEAN-
ING: ONE, THE INTERAMERICAN PERSPECTIVE, AND ANOTHER, THE
ESSENTIALLY U.S. PERSPECTIVE. WE STILL DO NOT KNOW WHAT
MIGHT BE THAFREACTION WITHIN THE UNITED STATES, SINCE OPINION
HAS NOT BEEN UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF THE TREATY, BOTH IN
LARGE SEGMENTS OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY, WHICH FROM THE FIRST
REJECTED AN AGREEMENT WITH PANAMA, AND WITHIN THE HOUSE AND
THE SENATE, THERE EXISTS AN OPPOSITION WHOSE BEHAVIOR WE CANNOT
PREDICT WHEN IT IS TIME TO RATIFY THE TREATY. AND HERE IS WHERE
THE INTERAMERICAN FACOTOR OMES IN. THE PRESENCE OF NEARLY ALL THE
LATIN AMERICAN CHIEFS OF STATE WILL WITHOUT DOUBT WEIGHT IN
THE POLITICAL BALANCE WHEN THE MATTER IS DECIDED IN-HOUSE,
BECAUSE IT IS AN ACT OF CONTINENTAL SOLIDARITY THAT HAS NOT BEEN
DONE BEHIND AMERICA'S BACK, BUT RATHER RIGHT IN FRONT OF HER
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REPRESENTATIVES. THERE IS THE INTELLIGENCE OF MR. CARTER'S
GESTURE."

HEREWITH ORIGINAL SPANISH.

"EL PRESIDENTE CARTER SE HA ANOTADO UN SIGNIFICATIVO TRIUM-
FO CON ESTA REUNION DE JEFES DE ESTADO, PUES MARCA UN RE-
CORD EN LOS ANALES DE LA POLITICA INTERAMERICANA Y SIENTA

VALIOSO PRECEDENTE. NUNCA, QUE NOSOTROS SEPAMOS, ESTADOS UNIDOS NECESITO DE TANTOS TESTIGOS PRESENCIALES PARA EJERCER UN ACTO DE SOBERANIA, COMO ES ESTA DE LA CELEBRACION DE UN PACTO BILATERAL CON UNA DE LAS REPUBLICAN LATINOAMERICANAS. HA SIDO UN PASO DE GRAN INTELIGENCIA Y PERSPECTIVA POLITICA, PUES SE SABE QUE EL CANAL DE PANAMA NO ES SOLO DE PANAMA, SINO EN CIERTA FORMA DE LAS AMERICAS, Y EN MAS AMPLIO SENTIDO, DEL MUNDO. PORQUE ES UNA VIA INTERNACIONAL. POR ELLO EL PRESIDENTE CARTER HAS QUERIDO REUNIR EN LA SEDE DE LA ORGANIZACION DE ESTADOS AMERICANOS AL MAYOR NUMERO DE TESTIGOS AUTORIZADOS PARA QUE DEN FE DE TAN TRASCENDENTAL ASUNTO.

A NUESTRO VER, ESTA MEDIDA DEL PRESIDENTE DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS, DE DARLE UNA ESPECIAL TRASCENDENCIA A LA FIRMA DEL TRATADO CON PANAMA, TIENE UN DOBLE SENTIDO: UNO DE PERSPECTIVA INTERAMERICANA; OTRA, DE PERSPECTIVA ESENCIALMENTE ESTADOUNIDENSE. NO SABEMOS AUN CUAL PUEDA SER REACCION INTERNA DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS, PUES LOS CRITERIOS POLITICOS NO HAS SIDO UNANIMES A FAVOR DEL PACTO. TANTO EN GRANDES SECTORES DEL PARTIDO REPUBLICANO, QUE DESDE UN PRINCIPIO REPUDIÓ EL ARREGLO CON PANAMA, CON DENTRO DEL CONGRESO Y EL SENADO, EXISTE UNA OPOSICION QUE NO SABEMOS COMO SE MANIFESTARA A LA HVJA DE RATIFICAR ESTE PASO POLITCO. Y ES AQUI EN DONDEENTRA EL FACTOR INTERAMERICANO. LA PRESEN-

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CIA DE LA CASI TOTALIDAD DE JEFES DE ESTADO DE LA NACIONES LATINOAMERICANAS, SIN DUDE ALGUNA PESARA EN LA BALANZA POLITICA DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS, CUANDO SE TRATE EN FAMILIA ESTE ASUNTO, PORQUE ES UN ACTO DE SOLIDARIDAD CONTINENTAL QUE NO SE HA HECHO A ESPALDAS DE LA AMERICA, SINO FRENTE A LOS AUTHORIZADOS REPRESENTANTES DE ESA AMERICA. DE AHI LO INTELIGENTE DE PASO DEL SENOR CARTER." DAMBRAVA

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, CANALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D770327-0541
Format: TEL
From: SAN SALVADOR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770980/aaaacptw.tel
Line Count: 101
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4d409849-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1330644
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CHANGED> mcm 20040924
Subject: PRESS COMMENTS
TAGS: SOPN, ES, PN, US
To: USIA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4d409849-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009